

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 23, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 28, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 30, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

## **ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1948**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Montanez**  
(Coauthor: Senator Figueroa)

February 2, 2006

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An act to add Section 14011.75 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child health.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1948, as amended, Montanez. Medi-Cal program: Healthy Families Program: Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits.

Existing law establishes the Healthy Families Program, administered by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, to arrange for the provision of health services to an eligible person.

Existing law establishes the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program, administered by the department, to provide early and periodic assessments of the health status of children.

Under existing law, benefits under the Medi-Cal program provided to an individual pursuant to a preliminary determination end, without the necessity for any further review or determination by the department, on or before the last day of the month following the month in which the preliminary determination was made, unless an application for medical assistance is filed on or before that date. If an application for medical assistance is filed before this deadline, preliminary benefits continue until the regular eligibility determination based on the application has been completed.

Existing law requires the department to develop an electronic application to serve as the application for preenrollment into the Medi-Cal program or the Healthy Families Program and to also serve as an application for the CHDP program.

This bill would require the department to conduct, or contract for the conducting of, a technological feasibility study report of technological requirements for modifying the above electronic application to allow a person applying on behalf of a child the option to simultaneously preenroll and apply for enrollment in the Medi-Cal program or the Healthy Families Program over the Internet without submitting a followup paper application. The bill would require the results of the feasibility study report to be provided to the fiscal and health policy committees of the Legislature on or before ~~January~~ *March* 1, 2008.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 14011.75 is added to the Welfare and
- 2 Institutions Code, to read:
- 3 14011.75. (a) The department shall conduct, or contract for
- 4 the conducting of, a feasibility study report of technological
- 5 requirements for modifying the electronic application authorized
- 6 pursuant to Section 14011.7, known as the CHDP Gateway, to
- 7 allow a person applying on behalf of a child the option to
- 8 simultaneously preenroll and apply for enrollment in the
- 9 Medi-Cal program or the Healthy Families Program over the
- 10 Internet without submitting a followup paper application
- 11 pursuant to the criteria set forth in subdivision (c).

1 (b) The results of the feasibility study report shall be provided  
2 to the fiscal and health policy committees of the Legislature on or  
3 before ~~January~~ *March* 1, 2008.

4 (c) (1) The modifications to the CHDP Gateway that shall be  
5 the subject of the feasibility study report of technological  
6 requirements under subdivision (a) shall allow an optional  
7 electronic application for enrollment to be submitted at the time  
8 of applying for preenrollment, so long as written consent to  
9 exercise the option is obtained.

10 (2) The optional electronic application developed for the  
11 purposes of this section shall comply with all of the following:

12 (A) Be the simplest permitted by federal law to achieve the  
13 purposes of this section, except that nothing in this section shall  
14 allow self-certification of income.

15 (B) Be adequate to constitute an application for medical  
16 assistance.

17 (C) Request only the information that is necessary to provide  
18 the child with continuing preliminary benefits within the  
19 meaning of subdivision (b) of Section 14011.8 until a final  
20 eligibility determination is made pursuant to the federal options  
21 described in Section 1396r-1a or Section 1397ee(1)(D) of Title  
22 42 of the United States Code and to the extent federal financial  
23 participation is allowed.

24 (d) The department shall consult with representatives of  
25 consumers, counties, and medical providers in developing the  
26 policies and procedures for the modifications to the CHDP  
27 Gateway that shall be the subject of the feasibility study report of  
28 technological requirements under this section.